

TERMS:

For subscription, \$1.50 per annum, strictly in advance; for six months, 75 cents.

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Obituary Notices exceeding five lines, Tributes of Respect, Communications of a personal character, when admissible, and announcements of Candidates will be charged for as advertisements.

Job Printing neatly and cheaply executed.

Necessity compels us to adhere strictly to the requirements of cash payments.

Primary Elections.

At the request of a subscriber from Greenville we republish the plan for conducting primary elections, adopted by the people of Oconee County in 1876. We do this the more readily because it involves a matter of common interest at this time to the people of our County and of the whole State in the now approaching fall elections.

The State Democratic Executive Committee have recommended the plan of primary elections for making nominations this fall as the least objectionable and as truly democratic, and have submitted a plan for general adoption. In this the committee merely recommends both as to the principle and plan of this making nominations, leaving to the clubs or people of each county, who are supreme, to adopt that or any other plan.

No reading man in South Carolina can deny but the first suggestion of this nominating candidates in this State originated with the Keowee Couriers, and this journal first discussed it as a remedy for the general and well founded objections to ring or delegate nominations. The County of Anderson held the first primary election in point of time, but the system had been discussed and lost in this county two years previous, the people not fully understanding it. In the next campaign our people adopted it, though our election was on a later day than in Anderson.

The subject is now being discussed all over the State and will doubtless prevail generally, if not universally. With us primary elections have worked admirably and have cured the evils complained of under the delegate system of making nominations. The plan by delegates is objectionable. It is not democratic. The motives are almost always the choice of a few leading "rings," or of a combination formed by the friends of two or three candidates, who manipulate the local clubs and secure delegates favorable to them. It became odious to our people and to be nominated would have been to be defeated. It had about come to this pass, and we cannot say without reason. In the then and in the now existing state of things nominations were essential to the highest interests of the people, and hence the primary plan was suggested and finally adopted. The plan is simple and fair to all. It meets fully the idea of a scrub race without danger to success, and then of a nomination of a Democrat with success. The election under our regulations must afford as fair an expression of the choice of the Democracy as could be had at the regular election conducted by law, and without danger to the good of the country. We encourage the formation of as many clubs as possible, thus putting a voting precinct within easy reach of every citizen and securing the fullest expression of opinion. This we regard important. A voting precinct in each township will not answer, as it is often too remote for many voters, who have to walk, to attend. In the eight townships of this county we now have twenty-eight clubs, and at our last primary nearly two thousand votes were cast, our full Democratic strength.

Who can object to this plan? It is merely a trial of the strength of the candidates in the Democratic party. All this party are permitted to vote. None but Radicals are excluded from the polls, for all Democrats can join the clubs and vote. The result among the Democratic candidates is what it would have been at the general election. They stand relatively as they would have then stood, for the primary is held only a short time before the regular election, that the canvass may be thorough and the vote be regarded as fixed. The benefit is this, that without the primary all the Democrats at the regular election might have been defeated, while the primary puts the strongest against the Radical candidate and prevents a division of the Democratic vote. Have the candidates defeated at the primary cause to complain? They ought rather to rejoice, for the result shows they would have been defeated any way, and perhaps also worked the defeat of other good Democrats. The plan is a good one and should be generally adopted. It is as follows:

Whereas, a large majority of the Democratic Clubs of Oconee County have decided in favor of primary election as the proper plan for nominating candidates for the various offices to be filled by election in November next; and whereas, a large majority of the delegates to the County Convention, held on the fourth Saturday in July last, under instructions from the local clubs, ratified their action, and the voice of the county convention was made unanimous; therefore, be it

Resolved 1st. That an election be held at the places hereinafter designated on Thursday, the fifth day of October, 1876, for the purpose of nominating candidates for the following offices, to wit: Senator, two members of the House of Representatives, Clerk of the Court, Sheriff, Probate Judge, School Commissioner, Coroner, and three County Commissioners.

Resolved 2d. That no candidate shall be voted for in said election, and, if voted for, such votes shall not be counted, unless such candidate shall, at the time of the election, be a member of some club in the county and pledge himself to support the nominees.

Resolved 3d. That the candidates or candidates, to the number eligible to any of said offices, receiving the highest number of votes for such office, shall be deemed and declared the Democratic nominee or nominees, as the case may be, for such office.

Resolved 4th. For the purpose of holding such election, the various clubs shall meet at or near their regular place of meeting and proceed to receive votes for candidates as proposed for the various offices designated, the club having previously elected three members who shall not

as managers of the election, and who shall keep a poll list of all persons voting.

Resolved 5th. That votes shall be received from 8 o'clock A. M., until 4 o'clock P. M., when the managers shall proceed to count the votes and make a certificate of the result.

Resolved 6th. That one of the managers of the election at each club or polling place, chosen by the other managers for that purpose, shall constitute the county board of managers, and they shall meet on Friday, the 6th day of October, in the Court House at Wallhalla, at 12 o'clock M., and proceed to aggregate the votes cast at the various clubs at all the polling places in the county and certify and publish the result in the county paper, and shall proceed to declare the candidate or candidates, as the case may be, receiving the highest number of votes the Democratic nominee for such office.

Resolved 7th. That the managers appointed to constitute the county board of managers at Wallhalla shall bring with them the poll lists of the votes cast at their polling places respectively, and deposit them with the President of the county convention, to be by him filed with the Secretary.

Resolved 8th. That all members of the various clubs in the county shall vote at the primary election; and the secretary of each club shall give roll of his club at the place of holding the election, and all persons, not club members, upon joining the clubs on the day of election, shall be allowed to vote.

Resolved 9th. That in case any club be hereafter organized in this county, and shall adopt the constitution prescribed by the State Executive Committee, such club shall be permitted to appoint managers and hold an election under the foregoing resolutions, sending up the result as herein provided.

Resolved 10th. That in case any two candidates for the same office shall receive the same and highest number of votes at the primary election for any office, then another election shall be held on the Thursday following the election herein ordered to determine which of the two shall receive the nomination for such office, under the same provisions as hereinbefore provided. Provided, That if either of the candidates so receiving the same and the highest number of votes shall withdraw in favor of his opponent, then no second election shall be held.

Sunday School Jubilee.

The meeting of the four Sunday Schools of Wallhalla, to wit: Baptist, Presbyterian, Methodist and Lutheran and the Union Sunday School of West Union was held in the Baptist Church last Sunday at 3.30 o'clock P. M., according to previous notice. The Church was crowded at an early hour, with youth and childhood, manhood and old age, and still they came until the aisles and doors were filled with spectators. At the hour J. R. W. Johnston opened the exercises by reading the 8th Chapter of Nehemiah, when a feeling prayer was offered by Rev. Dr. Smeltzer. After singing, Mr. Johnston, who timed the speakers, introduced Rev. S. L. Morris, who in a speech of seven minutes gave an account of the origin of the Sunday School as springing from a Sunday day School established by Robert Raikes, of England.

Then followed the other speakers, to wit: John D. Cappelmann, Rev. J. J. Neville, Prof. C. W. Moore, Wm. G. Neville, H. A. II. Gibson, Rev. Dr. Smeltzer, J. Walter Daniel, and W. J. Beard. The closing address was assigned to Rev. I. W. Wingo, of the Baptist Church. All the addresses were limited to seven minutes, and were remarkable for variety and interest, as attested by the patriotic and attention of the audience. We cannot give the subjects of the speakers, nor will we attempt to report what they said, but the exercises generally were adapted to children, and were interspersed with moral anecdotes and stories. The press was quoted from by almost every speaker, for it is the great religious as well as political instructor of the age. The address of Mr. Moore was directed to the older heads and was replete with humor, interspersed with sound sense. He was rapped down when we thought his time should have been extended. Mr. Gibson also spoke to the grown people. The whole thing was a success, though we think one half the speakers with more time would have been better. The children were attentive to all and well pleased, and such gatherings are likely to subserve good purposes both in instruction and emulation in good works. At the close of the speaking, Mr. Johnston thanked the audience in behalf of the speakers for their good silence and close attention, and repeated the Chinese poem of 124 verses, to wit: "Go on, go on, go on," &c., all the verses being composed of those expressive words, as applicable to the Sunday School work.

The object, we understand, is to establish a County Sunday School Union, then a State Sunday School Union, all looking to a World Sunday School Union. It is a grand idea, and will be the common plane, on which all denominations can meet and work and counsel together in the cause of Christianity. The proceedings throughout were interspersed with singing by a choir of singers selected from the choir of the four denominations who had been practicing together for the occasion. The singing was well executed and was what is regarded as adapted to children and Sunday Schools. At one time, however, it arose to the grandeur of true soul worship, when the air and words of that expressive old hymn, "Jesus lover of my soul," rose from a hundred throats, swelling and falling through the church, waking and vibrating the chords of the soul. Who ever heard this grand old hymn unmoved to devotion?

It is to be hoped the proceedings of last Sunday will have a good effect in giving new life to our Sunday Schools. There is no cause of greater importance to morality and religion. The Sunday School is the nursery of the church, and more than this, it serves to instill into the youthful mind the great truths of the Gospel, when the mind is most susceptible and the memory most retentive. These institutions are more important now than ever, both because the temptations to which the young are subjected are more widely diffused, and because the Bible is no longer read, as it is in our every day schools. As the intellectual faculties are developed in our schools and colleges, the moral powers should be kept well fed and strengthened. The education of the reasoning powers to the neglect of the moral nature is dangerous. It gives men power without a proper balance wheel, and when they go out in the world they are liable to convert their powers to improper uses. With well regulated Sunday Schools the needed moral food is secured to give them a proper course.

The Charleston papers bring us the intelligence of the death of Hon. Thomas Y. Simons. Mr. Simons was a prominent lawyer, and has filled various offices of honor and trust in the State. He was a man of high character and great ability. He was born in 1800, and died on the 2nd inst. He was a member of the State Senate, and served as Speaker of the House of Representatives. He was also a member of the United States Senate, and served as Vice President of the Senate. He was a man of great influence and was highly respected by his fellow citizens. His death is a great loss to the State.

Hope—a sentiment in the wag of a dog's tail when waiting for a bone.

County Auditor's Settlement with County Treasurer, in Oconee County, on Account of State and County Taxes, A. D. 1876.

| To amount charged against County Treasurer, as per Tax Duplicate for 1876, viz.: | |
|--|--------------------|
| Original assessment for State taxes (valuation \$1,871,400), | \$13,100.22 |
| Additional assessment for State taxes (valuation \$4,313), | 30.19 |
| 15 per cent. penalty (Delinquent List) on \$1,875,713, | 235.90 |
| Interest on first installment taxes, | 111.75 |
| Forfeited lands received from Ex-Treasurer Holleman, | 18.50 |
| Total for State, | \$13,496.08 |
| Original assessment for County taxes (valuation \$1,871,400), | \$5,014.38 |
| Additional assessment for County taxes (valuation \$4,313), | 12.93 |
| 15 per cent. penalty (Delinquent List) on \$1,871.0, | 101.12 |
| Interest on first installment taxes, | 47.89 |
| Total for County, | \$5,776.33 |
| Original assessment for Poll Tax, \$1,419.00, | |
| Additional assessment for Poll Tax, | 75.00 |
| Interest on first installment taxes, 15 per cent. penalty (Delinquent List) on \$280.83,0, | 42.12 |
| Total Poll Tax, | \$1,554.35 |
| Amount of School Funds, as apportioned by State Superintendent of Education, | \$2,231.20 |
| Grand total, | \$23,058.58 |

| By credits on account of taxes, as per vouchers presented, viz.: | |
|--|--------------------|
| Paid State Treasurer on account of collections for State, | \$11,378.01 |
| Cash on hand for State taxes, Treasurer's commissions, | 430.11 |
| Deductions and abatements by Comptroller General for erroneous assessments for State, per Abstract, | 18.04 |
| State tax on nulla bona executions, | 113.77 |
| State tax on lands forfeited to the State, | 108.43 |
| Treasurer's costs on lands forfeited to the State, as per "Forfeited List," | 72.54 |
| State tax on Blue Ridge Railroad and carried to Duplicate for 1877, | 1,067.72 |
| Total for State, | \$13,496.08 |
| Paid County Commissioners' orders, | 4,908.69 |
| Cash on hand for County purposes, Treasurer's commissions on \$5,215.70 for collections Poll tax, | 156.47 |
| Deductions and abatements by Comptroller General for erroneous assessments for County, per Abstract, | 7.73 |
| County tax on nulla bona executions, | 48.75 |
| County tax on lands forfeited to the State, | 46.48 |
| County tax on Blue Ridge Railroad and carried to Duplicate for 1877, | 457.59 |
| Total for County, | \$5,776.33 |
| Paid School Commissioner's orders from collections of Poll tax, Cash on hand from collections of Poll tax, | 400.92 |
| Treasurer's commissions on \$1,303.14 for collections Poll tax, | 30.09 |
| Poll tax abated by County Auditor, | 9.00 |
| Poll tax nulla bona, | 84.24 |
| Poll tax unpaid and reported to County Commissioners, as per their receipt, | 157.06 |
| Total for Poll tax, | \$1,554.35 |
| Amount State apportionment school funds, disbursed as per orders County School Commissioner, | 2,216.40 |
| Amount State apportionment school funds on hand, | 14.80 |
| Total State apportionment school funds, | \$2,231.20 |
| Grand total, | \$23,058.58 |

I do hereby certify, that I have carefully examined the above account, and have compared it with the books in my office, and find it to be a correct statement of all charges against Richard S. Porcher, County Treasurer, as per Abstracts furnished to Comptroller General for and on account of State and County taxes for A. D. 1876. And I further certify, that the credits allowed above are based upon vouchers for moneys paid both on account of State and County, this day shown me by the said Treasurer of Oconee County. Sworn to and subscribed before me, this 10th day of April, A. D. 1878. C. E. WATSON, County Auditor. J. W. STRIDING, C. O. P.

Act of the Legislature.
An Act for the preservation of certain insectivorous and other birds therein named.
SECTION 1. Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of South Carolina, now met and sitting in General Assembly, and by the authority of the same, That no person or persons shall at any time or place within this State take, kill, sell or expose for sale, export beyond the limits of the State, or cause to be taken, killed, sold, exposed for sale or exported beyond the limits of the State, any mocking bird, nonpareil, swallow, bee-bird, red bird, woodpecker, thrush or wren, under a penalty of five dollars for each bird so taken, killed, sold, exposed for sale or exported beyond the limits of the State; and it shall be lawful for any person to take or destroy any net, trap, or snare used for taking such birds whereof found set for such purpose.

SEC. 2. No person or persons shall destroy or rob the nests of any of the said birds under a penalty of ten dollars for each offense.
SEC. 3. The penalties incurred for violation of any of the provisions of this act shall be recovered before any Trial Justice in the County where such offense shall be committed, and shall be paid one-half to the informer and the other half to the County Commissioners to and for the use of the poor of the county.
SEC. 4. In case of the failure by any person or persons to pay any sum recovered under the provisions of this Act, the said person or persons shall be committed to the jail of the County for a period not less than five days, and at the rate of one day for every dollar of the sum so recovered and not paid when the amount recovered exceeds five dollars.
SEC. 5. Nothing in this act shall apply to any person who shall kill or take any of the said birds for the purpose of studying its habits or history or having the same stuffed and set up as a specimen, or to any person who shall kill on his premises any of the said birds in the act of destroying fruit or grain crops.

Approved March 22, 1878.
Every County Treasurer in the State has settled up, and their settlement has been approved by the Comptroller General.

Circumstantial Evidence.

In the trial of the Franklin murderers at Abbeville last week, there was an extraordinary case of conviction upon circumstantial evidence. The charge of Judge Mackey to the jury gives such a clear summary of the law and the evidence that we are convinced it will be read with interest by our readers. The report is copied from the Abbeville Press and Banner:

Mr. Foreman and Gentlemen of the Jury:
The prisoners at the bar, Jeff David, Mary David, John and Daniel Butler, are charged with murder. In this they stand on the 20th day of December, 1877, in the County of Abbeville, they did feloniously kill and murder George Franklin and Drusilla Franklin, then and there being in the petto of the State. Murder is the feloniously killing of a human being with malice aforethought. Malice is the wicked intent, and malice aforethought is the deliberate and formed design. Malice is either expressed or implied. It is expressed where the act is one which in its nature must have been deliberately performed, as the killing of a wayfarer, or by poison.

The argument of the learned Solicitor on behalf of the State, J. S. Cuthran, Esq., was worthy of the cause, and the cause is not unworthy of the argument, for more than one human life is poised upon the balance. The evidence is circumstantial or presumptive. It differs from positive or direct evidence in this—that the latter consists of proof furnished by the eye witnesses of the deed, while the former consists of those proved facts and circumstances which, being aggregated and judged by those rules and motives that usually influence human conduct, point to the guilty party whose positive proof cannot be furnished. There may be circumstances proved by the testimony of credible witnesses which reflect the form and face of the guilty as in a mirror, and which enable the judgment to repose in the firm conviction that the true criminal has been revealed. In the commission of secret crimes the criminal often imagines that he has moved to the land of the dead, and leaves no path behind him. Yet it often happens that along his trail the discerning eye has seen evidences that point unerringly to his guilt.

Circumstantial evidence furnishes a safe and sure foundation upon which a verdict may repose only, however, when it can stand the judicial test. In the history of celebrated trials, embracing many thousands of cases, but sixteen are recorded in which innocent persons have been convicted upon circumstantial evidence, and in every one of those cases the verdict of the jury was influenced by the opinion of the court expressed upon the facts, and in none of them would the evidence have stood the test now required by the law. The chain of circumstantial evidence must be tested as you would test a chain of iron—by the strength of the weakest link. The proven facts and circumstances must envelope the accused with an unbroken circle of guilty incidents, so as to exclude every reasonable hypothesis of his innocence. They must attach to the accused every badge of guilt as in the very nature of things could not attach themselves to an innocent man. The judgment of the circumstances as proved, the constant inquiry of the jury must be not, is the accused guilty, but may he not be innocent? If this last question, after a full review of all the evidence, is answered in the affirmative, there must be a verdict of not guilty.

You constitute a tribunal of twelve judges who are alone empowered to judge of the facts. The court declares the law, but cannot enter upon the domain of fact which the Constitution of the State declares shall be the sole province of the jury. Mr. Foreman and gentlemen of the jury, you are not to be governed by your sympathies or your prejudice in forming your judgment in this case. We have heard from early morning until now, in the still watches of the night, all the ghastly details of this most foul and unnatural murder. Here before you is the slab with which the deed of blood was done. The station of blood is yet upon it, and the white hairs of its victims are still clinging to its rough bark.

An aged man, with his sister, living in a solitary farm house, far distant from their nearest neighbor, were slain at nightfall, while sitting at their evening meal, he falling near the table where he sat, and she in the adjacent room, to which she had fled, after she had received a blow which had sprinkled with her blood the tablecloth opposite her seat. They were brother and sister, apparently possessed with an ample fortune, consisting chiefly of money, which they kept upon the premises. In the order of nature they would have been removed away from earth, to the bosoms of the grave long white upon their aged temples. She was apparently the last victim, for, followed swift in her flight by the murderer in her unavailing effort to escape, she left the prints of her hands, which were covered with her own blood, upon the white curtain, which, with woman's decent taste, she had hung to keep the sunlight from her chamber. They appeared to have trusted greatly in the laws of their country, for there was neither bolt nor bar upon their doors to keep the red-handed murderer from entering, and their treasures were kept beneath their own roof.

Were we guided by sympathy, you, gentlemen of the jury, and the learned counselors who attend the court, would not be here as dedicated to this hour, which nature dedicates to the testimony and carefully considering the facts in evidence, but we should be affixed upon the highways and in the forests, searching out the doers of this bloody deed, that swift vengeance might be inflicted upon them. But this is a court of law, and you are sworn that you will a true verdict give according to the evidence. You must judge the evidence in the light of the law. The prisoners are entitled to the benefit of every reasonable doubt. When the mind is still inquiring and the balance of the judgment wavers and is not settled in a fixed conviction, there is a reasonable doubt. In such a case the presumption of innocence must turn the scale in favor of the prisoner.

The learned Solicitor admits that as to Mary David and John David there is a reasonable doubt of guilt, and you should render a verdict of not guilty as to them. The form of your verdict will be as follows: Should you find the prisoners at the bar, Jeff David and William Butler, guilty, as charged, the foreman will write the word guilty on the back of the indictment, and beneath that word he will write his name, adding thereto the word foreman. Should you find only one of the prisoners guilty, you will say as to the prisoner guilty, "guilty," and as to the other you will say "not guilty." Should you find both prisoners not guilty, the foreman will write the words "not guilty" on the back of the indictment, and subscribe the finding in the form stated.

GROWTH OF "THE AMERICAN COMMONS."
Within the past week agents representing the executive committee of the "American Commons" have been in Richmond, Virginia, making to effect an organization. From the printed circulars, it seems that the organization has its central place in New York, and is a powerful, well organized association, having in view the millennium idea of peace on earth and a general good time. The statement printed is that the organization has in New England and the Northern, Middle and Western States 280,000 men, organized into regiments, brigades and divisions, and that they intend to revolutionize our whole system of political economy by force if necessary.

Is There a Time to Dance?

The decision of the Atlanta Presbytery, which lately met in Lawrenceville, Georgia, adverse to the appeal of Mr. Block, has put the seal of condemnation, so far as we are authorized of that ecclesiastical forum goes, upon dancing in its most innocent form and under all circumstances. This body has decided that there is no "time to dance."

The once order in this way: Some months ago, Mr. Frank E. Block, a deacon in the Central Presbyterian Church, of Atlanta, gave a party to his friends in honor of his mother and sister, who were visiting his family at the time, and who were on the point of leaving for their home in the West. There were invited in all about thirty-five guests, consisting of several elderly people—friends and neighbors of the family—and the rest young people, who had called on Miss Block during her visit to Atlanta.

The evening was spent, as is the custom with the gentry class, in social enjoyment, the principal feature of which was dancing, the round dances were not generally danced, only two couples participating in them.

In due course of time Block was cited to appear before the session of the Central Presbyterian Church to answer the charge of violating the laws of the church, in reference to worldly amusements. A trial before the church session was the result of this charge. The result of the trial was the suspension of the deacon from the fellowship, etc., of the church till he should repeat, by a vote of four to three. From the decision and sentence and suspension, Block appeals to the Atlanta Presbytery of which said church session was a portion. The appeal was decided against Mr. Block, by a vote of 18 to 8. Mr. Block will appeal to the Synod, which meets in Atlanta next November, where he expects a more favorable decision.

This case is exciting great interest in our sister State.

Disastrous Conflagration.

MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA, May 2.—Midnight—The flouring mills which were involved in the disaster here to-night form a group which comprises the heaviest concerns in the State. Chief among them were the two Washburn mills, the property of ex-Governor C. C. Washburn, of Wisconsin, in one of which the explosion occurred. It was the largest flouring mill in this country, and the largest but one in the world. It was built in 1870, and included forty-one run of stone, and was worth \$200,000. It is now a smoking mass of ruins, with its companion on the "platform." The destruction is complete, so far as the limits above named and serious within much wider bounds. The flames are still raging in the ruins, but are under control, and no further extension is feared. At this writing it is hoped the dead will be confined to the fourteen in the Washburn mill.

ST. PAUL, MINN., May 3.—The shock of the explosion at Washburn Mill, in Minneapolis, was plainly felt here, and the flames were seen, creating intense excitement throughout the city. Pieces of charred roof, paper, small timbers, and cinders were picked up, having been hurled in the air by the explosion and wafted here, nine miles distant, by the wind.

MINNEAPOLIS, MINN., May 3.—It was thought to be an earthquake, but proved to be the explosion of one of the great flour mills. Seventeen were killed. Loss of property, \$1,500,000. Cause, gas generated by the manufacture of patent flour, which may account for a somewhat general belly-ache.

WASHINGTON, May 3.—At the Cabinet council to-day there was serious attention given to the recent reports relating to the agitation on the Mexican border. There is abundant evidence of the fact that a strong movement has been inaugurated by the friends of Lerdo on the American side of the Rio Grande to cross over for the purpose of creating trouble for Diaz. Reports to this effect have been received by our government. The Secretary of War after the Cabinet adjourned issued an order to Gen. Ord enjoining it upon that officer to be particularly vigilant in the endeavor to prevent any invasion of Mexican territory, and hostile intent from this side of the Rio Grande.

The opinion in Administration circles here is that there will be serious trouble in Mexico and particularly along the border. The followers of Lerdo are without doubt instigating Indian raids into American territory for the purpose of having United States troops pursue them across the river, and thus produce additional complications with the Mexican government. This fact was mentioned at the Cabinet meeting. Escobedo is in Texas, and the opinion that he should be arrested for violating the neutrality laws was expressed by some of the members of the Cabinet.

The foregoing information has been received by our government through a number of official channels, including not only the military authorities, but the civil officials subordinate to the State department and the department of justice. Directions will be immediately issued from each of these departments for the prevention of violations of the neutrality laws. A formal letter from Minister Foster to the Secretary of State, enclosing copies of the correspondence between himself and the Diaz government on the occasion of his resumption of his duties as American minister to Mexico, was read at the Cabinet meeting.

THE ANTECEDENTS OF DISEASE.—Among the antecedents of disease are inertness in the circulation of the blood, an unnaturally attenuated condition of the physical system, that the current is deficient in nutritive properties, a wan, haggard look, inability to digest the food, loss of appetite, sleep and strength, and a sensation of unnatural languor. All these may be regarded as among the indices of approaching disease, which will eventually attack the system and overwhelm it, if it is not built up and fortified in advance. Invigorate, then, without loss of time, making choice of the greatest vitalizing agent extant, Hostetter's Stomach Bitters, an elixir which has given health and vigor to myriads of the sick and debilitated, which is lavished by physicians and analysis to be pure as well as effective, which is immensely popular in this country, and extensively used abroad, and which has been for years past one of the leading medicinal staples of America.

This promises to be the greatest crop year our farmers have ever known. The New York Times publishes despatches from twenty-nine States and one Territory, covering many points in each State, all of which correspondents send good news. "The first week in May," it says, "has not for years seen the general crops of the country in so advanced a condition and making such gratifying promises of abundant yield. An exceptionally open winter, followed by an early spring, has set forward planting and sowing by from three to five weeks; kindly rains have been sent, and destructive storms withheld in most sections, and the young blades and buds are now clearly past the danger of late frosts; of insect pests, whose ravages have been so fatal to the farmer's prosperity in years past, few are reported to be active this season. At no seed-time for twenty years have the farmers felt so hopeful of great harvests."

A Baltimore firm has written to the Commissioner of Agriculture, stating that they are in receipt of 1,002 ounces of green tea, leaves raised by Dr. A. M. Forster, of Georgetown, S. C. The flavor is between a Japan tea and a Moyune China green tea. The reason for shipping the leaves to this firm is to have them cured in the proper way, so as to secure a fair specimen of native tea.

Appropos of the recent murder of Lord Leitrim in Ireland, Colonel Forney sends from London an interesting burst of figures, showing how the soil of Great Britain is parcelled out to the few. Lord Leitrim owned 95,000 acres, and got from them a rental of over \$100,000 a year, by the hard treatment of his unfortunate tenants. The great land owners of Great Britain are divided as follows: 42 holding 100,000 acres and upwards; 72 holding 50,000 up to 100,000; 283 holding from 20,000 up to 50,000; 490 holding from 10,000 to 20,000; 611 holding from 5,000 to 10,000; 1,014 holding from 5,000 to 6,000; making in all 2,512 persons who possess the choice real estate of Great Britain; most of them noblemen who own in right of conquest, bequest, descent and purchase 3,910,572 acres in Ireland.

An expert in shoe manufacture says enormous fortunes are being accumulated by men who have invented machinery for facilitating this industry. The same person adds that "when it comes to run a shoe, on which we take pride in putting our name, we go back to manual labor when it comes to put point where the various pieces of a shoe are, must be put together. No machinery yet is good enough to finish our very best shoes. Man's or woman's subtle fingers must, after all, give the finishing touches for that class of work."

The New York Herald publishes a letter from the great Valley of the Yellowstone, showing that immigration is pouring into that country from all sections. The wigwag of the Indian has given place to churches and schools and stores and newspaper offices. At Tongue River, where Gen. Miles was encamped in 1876-7, there is a town of nearly one thousand inhabitants. The battle-fields of the heroic Custer are farms, and cattle graze on the plains and hillsides where the saddest and bloodiest of our Indian tragedies were so recently enacted. The Yellowstone Valley is forever lost to the Indian.

SUNDAY SCHOOL CONVENTION.—The committee of gentlemen who were recently appointed by the delegates to the International Sunday School Convention in Atlanta held a meeting in this city on Thursday evening, and determined to suggest a State Sunday School Convention, representing all denominations, some time during the coming summer. The time and place are to be selected hereafter. Wallhalla, Greenville and Spartanburg have already extended invitations, and doubtless other places will compete with them. Hon. Charles Petty, of Spartanburg, is chairman of the committee in charge of the matter.—Columbia Register.

Most of the newspapers speak kindly of the late John Morrissey. The New York Herald says he was a man, who never forfeited his word, who never sold his vote, who never trafficked in legislation, who was unapproachable, not merely by bribe, but by every kind of improper influence. The New York Times says many of the most respectable and intelligent of Mr. Morrissey's fellow citizens will rightly regard his death as a positive loss to the cause of good government in New York, and that no man charged him with being a venal legislator or a dishonest politician.

SHERIFF'S SALES.

BY virtue of sundry executions to me directed by I will sell, before the Court House door on MONDAY, the 3rd day of June, between the legal hours of sale, the following described property, to wit:

One Tract of Land in Oconee County, on Big Beaver Creek, waters of Seneca River, containing 270 acres, more or less, adjoining lands of Osborne Cleveland, J. B. Sifton and others. Levied on as the property of Carver Randall at the suit of G. W. Williams & Co. and others.

Also,
One Tract of Land on waters of Little River, containing 600 acres, more or less, adjoining lands of James McCarty and others. Levied on as the property of W. W. Davis at the suit of D. Hiemann, German Settlement Society and John Kaufmann.

TERMS OF SALE—CASH.
JAMES H. ROBINS,
Sheriff Oconee County.
May 9, 1878 25-4t

THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA, OCONEE COUNTY.

IN THE COMMON PLEAS.

A. W. Thompson and J. J. Norton, Plaintiffs, against P. L. Jordan, W. A. Lay and others, Defendants.—Complaint for Relief.
PURSUANT to an Order of said Court to me directed, I will sell, to the highest bidder, on sales-day in JUNE NEXT, at Wallhalla Court House, the premises described in said Order, made in the case above stated, as follows, viz: That Lot of Land in the Town of Wallhalla, containing one acre, composed of half acre lot No. 64, and the Western half of acre lot No. 21, fronting North on Main street one hundred and five feet, bounded on East by lots of S. H. Hyatt's estate, South by Broad street and West by street.

TERMS—One half cash, and the remainder in twelve months without interest, secured by note and mortgage.
Witness my hand and official seal at Wallhalla, S. C., this 8th day of April, 1878.

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